

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Tuesday, September 20, 2011**

Present: Commissioner President Francis Jack Russell
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Cynthia L. Jones
Commissioner Daniel L. Morris
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
John Savich, County Administrator
Sharon Ferris (Recorder)

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner President Russell called the business meeting to order at 9:00 am in the Chesapeake Building meeting room, Governmental Center.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to adopt the minutes of the September 13, 2011, as corrected. Motion carried 5-0.

INVITATION TO ST. MARY'S COUNTY FAIR

Present: John Richards, St. Mary's County Fair Association

Invitation to the St. Mary's County Fair was extended by Mr. Richards. The Fair runs this weekend, beginning Thursday, 9/22, through Sunday, 9/25. Mr. Richards noted that the County Fair Association is a totally volunteer-based organization.

**INTRODUCTION OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER,
ANTHONY JONES**

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

1. Draft Agendas for September 27, and October 4, 2011.

2. Department of Aging and Human Services (*Lori Jennings-Harris, Director; Cynthia Brown, Division Manager, Human Services*)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the modification of the FFY2009-2011 TEFAP contract, project #US1158, from the Maryland Department of Human Services in the amount of \$3,750, the related Sub-recipient Agreement between the County and the Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee and a related budget amendment to increase the project budget by \$3,750. Motion carried 5-0.

(Jackie Beckman, Program Coordinator, St. Mary's County Highway Safety Program)

Commissioner Jarboe moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the St. Mary's County Community Traffic Safety Program grant award, project #US1221, from the Maryland State Highway Administration's Highway Safety Office on behalf of the Department of Aging and Human Services for program management, administration and implementation of traffic safety programs in the amount of \$18,750 and to also execute the related budget amendments. Approval of this grant involves a position not included in the FY2012 budget. I also move to authorize the addition of the following position: 1 FTE Community Traffic Safety Coordinator, Grade 8, in the Department of Aging and Human Services, as classified by the Director of Human Resources, pursuant to review and process, to be effective through December 31, 2011, pending full execution of the grant award and subject to grant funding. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Sheriff's Office (*Erin Shoemaker, Fiscal Manager*)

Commissioner Morris moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to approve and accept the NADDI Law Enforcement grant, Project OT1205, from the National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators on behalf of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$5,000, and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the related budget amendment in the amount of \$5,000. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Department of Public Safety and Information Technology (*Bob Kelly, Director; Gerald Gardiner, Jr., Emergency Management Manager*)

(Mr. Brad Clements, Chief Operating Officer, St. Mary's County Public Schools)

Commissioner Jones moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the Sub-recipient Agreement, in accordance with the State Homeland Security Grant Award, US1020 between the County and the St. Mary's County Board of Education for purchase and installation of emergency campus phones at Great Mills and Chopticon High Schools. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to execute the Sub-recipient Agreement, in accordance with the State Homeland Security Grant Award, US1120, between the County and the St. Mary's County Board of Education, for the Emergency Generator Transfer Switch at Leonardtown High School. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Jones moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to approve and authorize Commissioner President Russell to sign the 2nd amendment to the Tower License between Crown Atlantic Company, LLC and the Board of County Commissioners for St. Mary's County, Maryland. Motion carried 5-0.

DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: REQUEST ADOPTION OF MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Present: Bob Kelly, Director, Dept. of Public Works and Information Technology
Gerald Gardiner, Emergency Management Manager, Dept. of Public Works and Information Technology

The St. Mary's County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan was completed and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in March 2006 and approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The Plan must be updated every five years to maintain compliance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Work began in June 2009 to update the 2006 Plan and a revised version was forwarded to the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) in March for their review. In June notice was received from MEMA that the plan was an approvable document. The plan before the Commissioners today lays out a 5 year plan of action for the County to eliminate long term risks to people and property from natural disasters. Once this Plan, dated March 27, 2011, is approved by the Board of County Commissioners, it will be forward for FEMA approval. To receive federal assistance the County must have a Hazard Mitigation Plan in place.

Mr. Kelly provided an update on Hurricane Irene. The threshold that the County and State must meet to be declared a disaster area is \$343,000 (County) and \$1.7M (State). This threshold has been met and the State has been declared a disaster area. The amount of reimbursement the County will receive for infrastructure cleanup is not known at this time. FEMA is still reviewing the paperwork to make the declaration for private homeowners' assistance. Information regarding FEMA support to homeowners and points of contact will be provided via the Public Information Office as soon as it is received.

Commissioner Jones expressed a concern that the Mitigation Planning Team was made up of key representatives from various county agencies, the Town of Leonardtown, and other organizations but did not include the individual citizens' perspective.

Commissioner Jones requested information on the Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Jarboe, to adopt the updated St. Mary's County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan dated May 27, 2011. Motion carried 4-1. Commissioner Jones voted nay.

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

The Commissioners highlighted events attended over the past week.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Morgan moved, seconded by Commissioner Morris, to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel, specifically, to conduct 2 employment interviews for the Director, Land Use and Growth Management position. Motion carried 4-1. Commissioner Jarboe voted nay.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel

Present: Commissioner Francis Jack Russell, President
Commissioner Lawrence D. Jarboe
Commissioner Cynthia L. Jones
Commissioner Daniel L. Morris
Commissioner Todd B. Morgan
John Savich, County Administrator
Sue Sabo, Human Resources
Donna Gebicke, Recorder

Authority: Article 24, Section 4-210(a)1
Time Held: 10:15 am – 12:24 pm
Subject Discussed: Personnel (employment interviews for Director, Land Use & Growth Management position)

SECRETARY, MD DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION: ANNUAL CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FY2012-2017

Present: Beverley K. Swaim-Staley, Secretary, MDOT
Diane Ratcliff, Administrator, Maryland Transit Admin.
Lee Starkloff, District Engineer, SHA
Michael Whitson, member, MD Transit Authority Board
Doug Simmons, representing St. Highway Administration
Henry Lightfoot, District Manager, Motor Vehicle Administration
Ashish Solanki, Director, Aviation Administration

Barbara Shields representing Senator Roy Dyson
Delegate Anthony O'Donnell
Delegate John Wood

Secretary Swaim presented the state's FY 2012-17 Consolidated Transportation Program. The status of projects underway in St. Mary's County was discussed as well as future endeavors.

Commissioner Russell read a letter from Senator Dyson expressing his concern with the safety of the Governor Thomas Johnson Bridge and that the time is now to begin design for the replacement of the bridge.

Commissioner Morgan addressed traffic congestion issues at the intersection of Great Mills Road and Rt. 5. He questioned the feasibility of installing a second light on the other side of the Sheetz gas station not more than 100 ft from the one at Great Mills Rd.

Commissioner Morris requested review of the section of Rt. 5 from the light at the intersection at Leonardtown Hollywood Rd to the light at Rt. 5 and Maypole Road. There is a serious safety issue for people making left-hand turns. You have Moakley Street which has a housing development and school board offices, the hospital and a small shopping area within a short distance of each other. For a temporary fix, he asked if it is possible to sync traffic lights so there is a gap in traffic to allow for left hand turns. A traffic light at Moakley or left turning lanes would be another solution. He also requested a transit service from Leonardtown to Charlotte Hall.

Delegate Wood requested attention be given to the following:

- One light at either Moakley Street or hospital
- Thomas Johnson Bridge
- Allens Fresh Bridge replacement – need to expedite - major thoroughfare from Rt. 234 to Rt. 301
- Tolls on Harry Nice Bridge and Bay Bridge
- Serious road conditions throughout St. Mary's County – needs paving

Delegate O'Donnell requested attention be given to the following:

- Allens Fresh Bridge replacement - important to all 3 counties
- Thomas Johnson Bridge

Commissioner Jones also expressed concern with the congestion at the intersection of 246 and Rt. 5. Another concern is congestion between Rt. 246 and Rt. 249 going north. There are two schools, a church and a rectory which have students and parents going in and out during morning and evening rush hours. Extended right lanes do not seem sufficient and left turn lanes are needed.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Russell adjourned the Board of County Commissioners meeting at approximately 3:10 pm.

Minutes Approved by the Board of County Commissioners on _____

Sharon Ferris, Senior Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)